

REMARKS

Originally filed claims 1-24 are pending in this application. Applicants have amended the priority claim to update the applications that were pending at the time of filing and have now issued. As no new matter has been added by the amendments herein, Applicants respectfully request entry of these amendments at this time.

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Examiner has imposed a Restriction Requirement on the claims filed with this application. In response, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I (claims 1-6 and 22-24), with traverse, for prosecution in this application. The claims of Group II (claims 7-21) have been withdrawn contingent on the Examiner's reconsideration of the Restriction Requirement.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of Group I and Group II are not unrelated as suggested by the Examiner. For example, all of the independent claims feature a structural layer outside of the core formed from a thermoplastic composition comprising p-phenylene diisocyanate monomer. Despite the different properties recited in the two groups of claims, a search for golf ball layers including the recited thermoplastic composition would likely encompass all of the resultant properties of a layer formed from the composition.

Furthermore, the Examiner has included two independent claims in Group I that feature the thermoplastic composition in different layers. It is unclear why these two independent claims are considered to be "related" when the claims of Group II are not. As such, Applicants submit that a search and examination of the entire set of claims can be made without serious burden.

CONCLUSION

All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that the present amendments still do not resolve all of the issues regarding patentability of the pending claims, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorneys to discuss any remaining issues.

No fees are believed to be due at this time. Should any fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Swidler Berlin LLP Deposit Account No. 195127, Order No. 20002.0302.

Respectfully submitted,
SWIDLER BERLIN LLP

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